

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please insert the attached one page abstract at the end of the application (abstract attached).**

**Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 1 on page 1:**

**1. Technical Field**

**Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 3 on page 1:**

**2. Related Art**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 3 on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

[[The]] JP-A 57046048 [[infers]] shows a rectangular piston ring, when viewed in cross-section, having a thermal sprayed layering on the basis of molybdenum. The faces of the piston ring are equipped with a protective layer of [[C]]chrome.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Even where the JP-A 57046048 already offers a chromed face area with a rectangular ring, this problem cannot simply be put off onto trapezoidal formed faces in connection with operating surfaces having a sprayed layering. This is essentially based on the penetration of the acidic [[C]]chrome electrolyte into the layering of the operating surface, resulting in the possibility of damage or dissolving of the operating surface layering. In this respect additional research is needed.

**Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 17 on page 1:**

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 on page 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

~~Advantageous further developments of the piston-ring as presented in this invention may be gathered from the representational sub-claims provided.~~ The piston

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ring can ~~hereby represent~~ have a rectangular cross-section as a standard configuration, where variations may also occur, such as where the trapezoidal forming of the face area may be possible.

**Please remove the paragraph beginning on line 19 of page 2 and ending on line 20 of page 2 in its entirety.**

**Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 15 on page 3:**

**THE DRAWINGS**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

~~The subject of this invention is presented on the basis of the execution examples in the drawing and is described as follows. They depict:~~ Embodiments of the invention are illustrated in the drawings, in which:

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Figures 1 through 3 show cross-sectional views of three alternative~~Varying~~ execution forms of surface area layered trapezoidal piston rings; and

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 on page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Figure 4 shows a cross-sectional view of a operating surface layered piston ring according to a fourth alternative, in cross-section

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 on page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:**

Figure 4 shows a piston ring 1' ~~in analog perspective~~ as described in figures 1 and 3, having an operating surface 2 as well as an upper face area and a lower face area 3, 4. The operating surface 2 is layered with a thermal spray layer 11 in accordance with the HVOF-procedures, for example, on the basis of TiC layering. The piston ring 1' has a

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rectangular cross-section. The face areas 3, 4 exhibit a galvanic isolated chrome layer 12, 13.